ossibility of getting at the securities which

William H. Hotchkiss, State Superintend-

ent of Insurance, sent the following tele-

gram yesterday to the heads of the insur-

ance departments of every state and terri

tory in the country, and to the similar of-

object, he explained, of allaying the fears of

ficials in the provinces of Canada, with th

any policyholder of the Equitable:

tire insurance

one hundred law offices.

Mr. Krech, "keep their securities, cash and

hand in their offices innumerable records

are in the Equitable vaults.

SAY APPARATUS WAS LATE

Fully 18 Minutes Elapsed Before Engines Reached Fire.

EMPLOYES TALK AT INQUIRY

Fought Flames and Thought They Had Blaze Under Control, but Alarm Was Turned In.

The employes of the Equitable Life Assurance Society and the Café Savarin and three policemen were witnesses yesterday afternoon before Acting Fire Marshal Prial. who is conducting an investigation into the cause of the fire. One of the principal witnesses was Philip O'Brien, timekeeper in the Café Savarin, in whose room the fire originated.

He said that he arrived at the building at 5 o'clock, his time to report for work. His room, a small inclosure 4 by 12 feet, is in the basement or the Pine street side, a few feet from the elevator shaft. When he arrived at the place, O'Brien said, he went directly to his room, reaching there a few minutes after 5 o'clock. He then went to another room to get some books. Before he left his office. O'Brien says, he lit a match, with which he lit the gas. He said he was sure he threw the burned match on the stone floor outside the office door.

O'Brien says he returned to his office a few minutes later and went out again at exactly fifteen minutes after 5 o'clock. At 5:18 o'clock, he said, he was informed by another employe that his room was afire. He went to the room and found a waste asket and a portion of a chair burning.

From this testimony it was seen that the ire started between 5:15 o'clock, when O'Brien left his room, and 5:18 o'clock. hen he was told about the fire. The officisi time recorded on the automatic alarm clocks at all of the fire houses and Headquarters was 5:34 o'clock, or at least sixteen minutes after the fire had been dis-Sergeant Eugene Casey and Patrolman

David J. Poley, who ran to the building when they heard of the fire, and Patrolman John Hummell, who was also present, were Casey and the others found, they said, the employes fighting the fire and when Casey ordered one of the patrolmen to turn in an alarm he was told by ome one in the place that it was not cossery, that they could handle the blaze. axey says the place was so filled with smoke that he could not identify the man who told him this. The sergeant, however, saw that the blaze was serious, and caused an alarm to be turned in.

Arthur E. Davis, who was in charge of the building when the fire was discovered, testified that the fire could not have been caused by defective insulation.

avis said there was one continuous stair way in the building leading from the base ment to the top floor. He said he showed he stemen how to reach the upper floors be then thought of the boilers in the basement of the building. Fearing they explode, he hurried down, worked in water above his knees and drew from under the seven boilers enough fire to lower the

an upper floor of the building after he had rawn the fire from under the bollers and hat he assisted him to the street. He said I was at least twenty minutes after he tas told of the fire in the timekeeper's room before the fire appartus arrived

W. A. DAY PRAISES FIREMEN

grociety, praising the courage and devotion to duty shown by the firemen and police at the fire which destroyed the Fouttable. building. Mr. Day's letter follows:

prevailed yesterday.

The was a most gratifying and inspiring demonstration of the efficiency of the officers and men of the Fire and Police departments and one of which the citizens of this city may well be proud.

Mayor Gaynor's reply was:

Angeles, in which Mr. Coler said he was forwarding \$100 for the "benefit of families of firemen" killed in the Equitable fire,

REWRITE BURNED POLICIES Lawyers Get Duplicates from Brokers' Records.

Throughout the insurance district yesterday brokers were bushy engaged in rewriting policies which had been burned in the offices of law firms, tenants of the Equita- He let it be known that any banker or ble Building. The reason for this was due broker or lawyer desirous of moving from settled in sleet on the backs of the gas to the fact that in the majority of lawyers' offices policies which cover mortgages ing the removal of valuable papers and and the property of estates are usually kept securities could call on him for detectives separate tin boxes, and, because of their bulk, are not placed in safes.

It was a comparatively easy matter to trace the greater number of the burned records, and 39 per cent of the business in of the Equitable Building, but business was are as follows: New York being controlled and placed by still hampered by the tying up of a billion insurance brokerage firms. It was the dollars' worth of securities in the vaults of brokers who came to the immediate rescue the burned building. of their lawyer clients and turned to with vigor in getting out new policies. Thou-sands of binders were passed over the what steps to take as a result of the concounters of the insurance companies for ditions arising from the inability of brokers the underwriters' signatures, so that when to get these buried securities. After a the business day closed all property was brief session they reached a decision sim-

Before nightfall a new record of all policies was established, the new policies being the rule requiring deliveries of stocks sold written for the unexpired term of the old on the preceding day. Yesterday's ruling policies, without there being any charges confined the suspension of deliveries to to the owners of the property for the new

SUNDAY'S NEW-YORK TRIBUNE Mailed anywhere In the United States for \$2.50 a year.

KOUNTZE BROTHERS

BANKERS

Have taken permanent

offices at

141 **BROADWAY**

until the transaction is terminated.

THE STATUE OF HENRY B. HYDE, UNTOUCHED BY FIRE AND WRECKAGE.

This emgy in bronze, stands in the big lobby on the ground floor of the Equitable Building.



William Collins testified he found Davis WRECK OF THE GENERAL OFFICES OF THE INSURANCE COMPANY ON

Head of Equitable Also Extols to turn over the ruins to the Assurance

and landed two floors below on one of either could be opened. the piles of debris formed by the fallen ness in its temporary quarters in the in steel boxes, in vaults other than the big severe bruises, but was in no way in street without a litch yesterday, and with have been destroyed there are duplicates of nue received from the by-products the capacitated. Earlier in the day he had no more delay than if it were in its own everything, and the expense would be only packers are enabled to sell fresh beef at

blocks between Liberty and Wall streets, only delays in making clearances were due in Broadway, and also in Nassau street, to the clerks of the banks having difficulty to chop away the vast accumulation of ice in getting through the maze of fire lines. which covered both these thoroughfares I am much gratified by your letter. The people of this city have reason to be proud of the members of the Fire and Police departments. Their heroism and intelligence are of the highest order. We can rely on them in all emergencies, and also from day to day. They are as true as steel to the people of this city. The death of Battalion Chief William J. Walsh is lamentable, but his heroism adds a new glory to the Pire Department. y your letter. The within the fire-fighting zone. The Metro-temporary home until the fire and building politan Street Railway Company em- authorities say there is no danger of the ployed its own gang in Broadway to hew Equitable Building walls falling and dama path for the surface cars. But no aging the Clearing House Building in Cedar

message from Bird S. Coler, now in Los large quantities was escaping from the pany put in the night digging through ice mains in the street and the broken pipes leading from them into the Equita- pipes entering the wrecked structure from ble Building. As he feared that an explosion which would tear up the neighborgood, wreck the subway and precipitate the toppling walls upon the surrounding buildings might result from the passage of the cars, he refused to let them by the ing, continued to throw their streams police lines.

Inspector Edward Hughes of the De his men throughout the financial district. up from the harbor whipped an icy spray the fire zone and wishing an escort duror uniformed police to guard the transfer.

Stock Exchange Still Hampered.

Wall Street had recovered somewhat yes-

The governors of the Stock Exchange flar to, but less drastic than, that of Tuesday, when they ordered the suspension of those directly or indirectly affected by the

The governors also passed a resolution suepending the deliveries of the securities locked up in the Mercantile vaults indefinitely. It provides that the law committee shall have the power to extend the period in which the delivery of these stocks is suspended, in their discretion, as the occasion may require. The resolution provided further that the law committee shall have full power to rule upon any dispute arising out of the present condi-

The law committee later in the day made two rulings which it was stated must apply to all transactions affected by the tying up of securities through the Equitable fire. The first was that accrued interest on bonds shall cease on the day the contract matures and that the purchaser shall from that day pay to the seller interest at the renewal market rate for money on the amount of the deferred payment until the closing of the transactions.

The second was that where transactions in stocks cannot be completed, the renewal market rate for money shall be allowed and paid on the amount of money involved

Reports Vaults are Intact. There was considerable relief in the finantial district when it became known in the that not for several days will there be any

afternoon that Ernest H. Wakeman, an employe of the Mercantile Safe Deposit Comany, had made a superficial examination of the vaults of his company as soon as had done away with fire insurance," said the walls had cooled sufficiently to permit. Mr. Rittenhouse, "for not only does the so-

posed to the action of the flames, it is cooler now than the vaults of the Mercan-Fonce in Letter to Mayor.

W. A. Day, president of the Equitable
Unife Assurance Society, sent a letter yesterday to Mayor Gaynor, in behalf of the

This will go on under the personal
ille company, and will therefore yield up its
houses.

What is the difference between the
hundreds of millions of treasure sooner, it
houses.

What is the difference between the
hundreds of millions of treasure sooner, it
houses.

What is the difference between the
hundreds of millions of treasure sooner, it
hundreds of millions of treasure sooner, it
houses.

Larke was credited with the rescue of
hundreds of millions of the Mercantile Trust
is expected. But both Chief Kenion and despected by an ambulance surgests and desrevived by an ambulance surgests and des-

On behalf of the Equitable society I wish to express our keen regret at the deployable loss of life at the burning of our office building—that was the trreparable loss. We are especially moved by the heroic death of Battalion Chief William J. Walsh, who gave his life in an effort to save others.

Twish also to testify to the extraordinary courage and devotion to duty of the members of the Fire and Police departments who so unfinchingly faced their difficult task while suffering from the bitter cold which prevailed yesterday.

He was a most gratifying and inspiring .

The shall but the fallen floors. The chief inspector received some floors are in the fallen floors. The chief inspector received some floors are in the floors. The chief inspector received some floors. The chief inspector received some floors are in the floors. The chief inspector received some floors are in the floors. The chief inspector received some floors are in the floors. The chief inspector received some floors are in the floors. The chief inspector received some severe bruises, but was in no way in the piles of debris formed by the fallen floors. The chief inspector received some floors and with the piles of debris formed by the fallen floors. The chief inspector received some floors. The chief inspector received some floors and with the following in Liberty should have been destroyed there are duplicates of chamber of Commerce Building in Liberty should have been destroyed there are duplicates of chert was the follow as that hitch yesterday, and with no more delay than if it were in its own the chief inspector received some floors. The should have been destroyed there are duplicates of chert was the follow as the floors. The chief inspector received some floors. The should have been destroyed there are duplicates of chert was the follow as the floors. The should have been destroyed there are duplicates of chert was the follow as the floors. In the floors and the property wall, but even if they should have been destroyed there chert withou marched into the forbidden promptly and that even on Tuesday the by Mr. Rittenhouse as ridiculous.

said. "and it is possible that they represented nearer to \$100,000,000 in policy value The Clearing House will remain in its cally sure that they are safe in the vaults, which are intact, even had they been desimply a matter of clerical work in copying

under the shadow of the threatening wall and in front of the building in Broadway. Chief Kenlon discovered that gas in employes of the Consolidated Gas Comasphalt and earth to disconnect the gas the gas mains and stop the gas leaks Above the heads of the Cedar street delvers three hose nozzles, still fastened to window sills on the third floor of the American Exchange National Bank Buildthrough the blind windows of the Equitable wall onto the steaming roof of the tective Bureau, scattered twenty-five of Mercantile vaults. A keen wind racing from these streams in transit, which

Chief Kenlon gave out yesterday the stimated cost of fighting the fire and savng the adjoining property. The total cost to the city, as estimated by the Chief, amounts to \$92,100 for the two days' work terday from the shock of the destruction of the department. The estimated items

Salaries, two days, 1,000 firemen.
One hundred tons of coal.
Damage to apparatus.
Hose lengths destroyed (100 lengths).
Hose admaged (can be repaired).
Loss of tools, implements, etc...
Fixed charges 45,000

Total (estimated) The Chief estimates that between ten and fifteen million gallons of water were thrown into the building and on the adjoining structures and that the value of the apparatus called to the fire was \$375,000. The officers and directors of the Equitable

Life Assurance Society held a series of informal conferences yesterday, and although no official announcement came from them it was understood that the plan for a sixty-two story skyscraper was thrown into the discard. It was said the general impression among

the officials was that the supposed advertising value of such "cloud brushers" was vastly overrated, and the directors felt that it would be wiser to build only such a home office building as would adequately care for their business needs and follow the legitimate advertising field of newspapers and nagazines for their publicity. More than that, it was reported that

there was a feeling among the directors that the society would do better to sell the valuable block on which the old Equitable Building stood and build the new home office further uptown. Meanwhile the Equitable has taken a

three-year lease on the quarters rented on Tuesday in the City Investing Building, and those, together with the Hazen Build; ing, at No. 2 Albany street, which is occupled solely by the Equitable, will constitute the headquarters of the company until the question of a new home is definitely decided. "It is likely that the directors will not take up the question of a new home office building for several weeks at the least, said E. T. Rittenhouse, speaking for the

company yesterday, "and it is also probable

Government Will Insist Later That They Be Admitted as Evidence for Prosecution.

CAUTIOUS AFTER INJUNCTION

Instructions Were Given Verbally After Judge Grosscup's Decision-No Actual Change in Method of Doing Business.

Chicago, Jan. 10.-Methods employed by he packers on trial before United States District Judge George A. Carpenter for criminal violation of the Sherman law in emputing the uniform test cost of slaughtered animals, which, the government con ends, was the basis used in fixing the n argin of profit and selling cost of fresh neat, were revealed to-day by Henry F.

He declared that after the injunction issued by Judge Grosscup, in 1882, the in-structions given him by his superiors re-might get control of that building, how were always destroyed after six months, table block were carried out. The cost of killing, he said, had increased

He said that two methods were used in curing the test cost of the animals. One 'red" cost, and the other as the "last" or val test cost.

memorandum or Cred" test cost is the ne which all the members of the alleged ackers' combination used in fixing the nargin of profit and the selling cost of his brilliant really achievements of t fresh meat. The witness explained that the credit

reased from \$2.15 to \$2 a hundred pounds eithin three years.

Packers' Letters Barred.

Effects of fire in Equitable Life much exaggerated. Security and policy vaults thought intact. Surplus adequate, hence no possible loss to policybolders. Records, save those of executive, correspondence and actuarial departments, safe in another building. Home office building for years not counted asset above land value. Company's officers active in meeting situation. Probably little disturbance of company's regular business. Am in close touch with situation. Please give publicity to this, that policyholders may be assured. At the opening of court Judge Carpener struck from the record certain pa-Mr. Rittenhouse, for the company, expers and letters bearing notations purplained the matter of the Equitable carrying no fire insurance with fire insurance porting to be in the handwriting of J. Ogcompanies on the old building at No. 136 den Armour, one of the defendants. Broadway. The society, he said, owned about tweive to fifteen buildings throughout fence, which contended that the presenta-

the world, and on all of them, except the tion of the evidence to the jury without some office building, it carried regular fire definite connecting links would be prejuinsurance. On that building, however, the dicial to the defendants.

Other papers bearing similar notations the directors decided several years ago that purporting to be in the handwriting of

it was useless to pay out premiums on a other defendants were permitted by the tructure which the Insurance Department court to remain in the record, but the did not even allow them to carry as an court ruled out Jerome H. Prait's testiasset of the company. It had been decided mony identifying the handwriting. then that ultimately the building would be District Attorney Wilkerson announced tern down, as a detriment to such valuable that the government would call handproperty, so the directors established a writing experts before the close of the

small insurance fund of their own to carry trial in an effort to show that the pencil en the building and discontinued outside notations on certain documents now t

evidence were written by several of the as some one has done, that the Equitable | Special Counsel Pierce Butler, for the Engineer Recommended for Res., man fell exhausted at it, and he persisted "It is nonsense to argue, or to advertise, defendants, done away with fire insurance," said government, then turned the

Well, a steer that costs \$60 will bring Company, who was caught in the vanits of clared be was 2t represent on city. It is about \$50 in dressed beef, was Pratt's the company during the fire, and could not expected that his deed will be remarded.

"Is it not true that because of the reve "Yes, that is true

Company was an active competitor when business started at 10 o'clock in the society might lose \$70,000,000 worth of pollthat these letters you wrote to your su-Gaugs of "White Wings," with picks and Clearing House, said payments were made society had made loans, was characterized periors for certain information were to find "Those policies also were in yaults," he Payne. "Yes," replied Pratt

Pratt declared there was no substantial difference in the packers' method of doing than \$70,000,000, but though we are practf- business between 1894 and 1906.

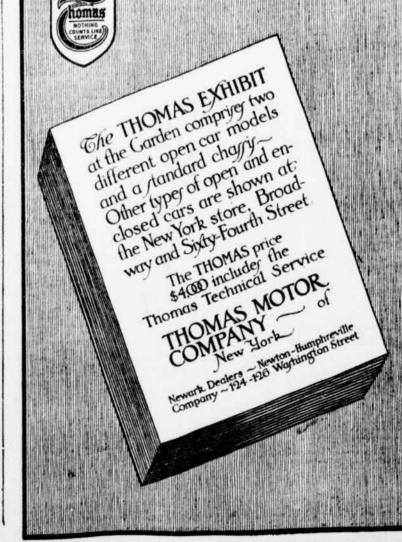
This concluded the examination of Pratt. who was excused after being on the witstroyed their replacement would have been ness stand three days.

Henry F. Moyer, connected with Armou from the records of the disbursing office in κ Co. for twenty-five years and at present the Hazen Building the names and data on in charge of the dressed carcass account ing department, was called as the next Alvin W. Krech, of the Equitable Trust witness for the government and was questioned out a new feature of the fire's effects yesterday, when he said that "What position does J. Ogden Armour

the old Equitable block sheltered probably hold with your company?" "I don't know, but we all call him the 'Bankers and insurance companies," said boss," replied Moyer.

Mr. Moyer said he figured the test cost ther valuable papers in vaults, and none on cattle handled by Armour & Co of them doubtless lost anything of that that he gave the figures to Arthur Meeker nature by the fire, but lawyers have on and the cattle buyers when requested. The witness said that all instructions in and papers belonging both to themselves and to litigants, some of which it would be impossible to replace, and for the most part Grosscup's injunction in 1962.

they keep them in steel boxes piled on SUNDAY'S NEW-YORK TRIBUNE shelves in their offices. The destruction of Mailed anywhere in the United States for \$2.50 a year. such records might tangle up litigation of



LETTERS OF PACKERS RULED OUT OF TRIAL

THE EQUITABLE FIRE LOSS Human Lives and Costly Business Interruption Could Have Been Avoided

Grinnell Automatic Sprinklers "Standard of the World."

Make Fire Commit Suicide-Alert and Watchful Night and Day. Fight Fire at Any Height. Not Handicapped by Smoke or Heat.

Ceneral Fire Extinguisher Co. NEW YORK OFFICE, 1 LIBERTY STREET.

Tuesday's conflagration shows that fire is a constant menace. You can protect yourself against this impending danger by securing an equipment which will pay for itself in a few years through the saving in insurance premiums. There is danger in delay. Get protection and save money by doing it.

MAY BUY CITY INVESTING?

Equitable Subject of Speculation in Real Estate Circles.

ne real estate men were trying yes iny to determine what the Equitable Life Assurance Society would pay for the City Moyer, an accountant in the employ of Investing Building, No. 165 Broadway, is which it now has its home office, provides it could buy the skyscraper. There was n garding the items used in figuring the test ever, other than that it would be in need of ost were communicated to him verbally, a large permanent central headquarter

The building was opened several years from \$1 a head to \$275 a head in twenty- ago, and already it is numbered as the two years. During the great railroad strike | most successful realty investment" ever n 1894 the killing cost, he said, went to created in this city. Ploors rent for \$50,000 a year, and there are many there rented for long terms at that price. Naturally the inference would be that the owners or "the best investment" or

Manhattan Island would not want to pa with its income jewel. But that view of things does not hold good in this instance the company owning the building, is young man, and he is expected to exc recent past. Knowing this, the directe of the City Investing Company, which is clude Robert Goelet, Bradish Johnson, I S. Thompson, C. H. Tweed, W. L. Bul A. W. Krech, B. A. Sands and H. D. Hotchkiss, would, it is thought, be willing

At one time the Equitable Life Assurance Society owned the Trinity Building property. No. 111 Broadway. In its old home premises from the United States Realt and Improvement Company. That we about eight years ago. Robert E. Lowling and Improvement Company. Later Mr. Dowling resigned from that corporation and formed the City Investing Company

FIRE HERO AN INDIAN

cue of President Giblin.

marketing fresh meat through the branch terdsy to Fire Commissioner Johnson by but Larke sawed away and at last was re-Fire Chief Kenion for heroic work at the warded by seeing the har severed

Insure Your Office Records Furniture and Supplies 95 Liberty St. A Perfect Seasoning

mly three weeks ago a committe

this building reported that there was



BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES

to released except by the sawing of the are. Larke undertook the task after one he walls had cooled sufficiently to permit close approach and had found them insect.

As the Equitable vanit was not so ex-

The Rug Limited Vantine Oriental Rugs, this

a veritable Garden of Allah to the rug seeker with a limited amount to spend. They have been gathered slowly for a year past, over the deserts and

second week in January, present

the hills of the Far East. Now comes the yearly clearance; for the caravan-the "Rug Limited" -must be kept on its way.

People everywhere have confidence in Vantine rugs and Vantine prices. The other day a lady in California sent us a check for \$1,000, directing us to pick out a rug of certain kind and size and send it to her.

With profits on these goods always minimized, during this yearly sale the cut is always a little deeper.

It is an opportunity that comes once every season-and only once.

Good Orientals at \$10 Desirable in every way-not a lot of

remnants. Average 31/2 by 5 feet. Beloochistans, Shirvans and Mossouls-some in very soft colorings - some antiques. All good. \$15 and \$20 Selections

One of the best assortments we have

presented for several years. Same weaves as above, but up to 4 by 6 feet. Beautiful rugs in good condition. Oriental Hall Rugs at \$25

Averaging 8 to 10 feet long and 3 to 4 feet wide. A number of choice Kazaks

and Mossouls-many in desirable brown color tones. At \$28 and \$32.50 Several attractive lots of Bokharas, Beloochistans, Mossouls, Kurdistans and

Slightly Damaged Orientals at \$40 If perfect, would be fairly priced at \$75 -a number of well-woven Kazaks, in choice colorings. Very slightly injured. Some of them semi-antiques.

In addition, unusually large assortments of Turkish and Chinese rugs, from \$40 to to \$250; Ghorovans, Kermanshas, Sarouks, Masheds, Serapis and the largest collec-tion of Samarakand rugs in America.

A. A. VANTINE & CO.

Broadway and Eighteenth Street

